**In the Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A medical active substance patch comprising a matrix of monolayer or multilayer configuration and a backing layer connected with said matrix, said backing layer having one side averted from the skin, wherein at least one layer of the matrix contains a pharmaceutically active substance, and wherein at least one layer of the matrix contains an ingredient selected from the group consisting of at least one coloured ingredient, and at least one colourless ingredient being colourless in an initial state and tending to discolour or to discolour(s) during storage or to discolour during the application period, and wherein said at least one coloured ingredient and said at least one colourless ingredient are selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutically active substance and an auxiliary agent;

said active substance patch being transparent or translucent;

said active substance patch comprises at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments, wherein said at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments is contained in ~~at least one of~~ said ~~layers~~ at least one layer of the matrix and/or is associated with said backing layer;

in the state of having been applied to a first person's skin said patch, at a place of the skin covered with the patch, has a lightness colour value $L_1$ which is not less than 50% and not more than 200% of a lightness colour value $L_2$, with $L_2$ being the lightness value of the region of the skin of the same person which surrounds the applied patch, and

that the same applies in respect of the skin of a second or any other person, provided that $L_2$ is in the range from 5° to 100°.

2. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein the lightness colour value $L_2$ of the first person is the lightness colour value of a person of light, Caucasian skin colour, and that the lightness colour value $L_2$ of the second person is the lightness colour value of a person of dark, Negroid skin colour, or vice versa.

3. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said active substance patch contains said at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments in the matrix layer or in at least one of the matrix layers.

4. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, further comprising a coating covering said backing layer on the side averted from the skin, said coating containing at least one substance selected from the group consisting of at least one dye and at least one pigment.

5. (withdrawn) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said surface of the backing layer which is averted from the skin has reduced reflection properties.

6. (withdrawn) The medical active substance patch according to claim 5, wherein the reduction in reflection properties is accomplished by physical methods.

7. (withdrawn) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, further comprising an antireflection layer applied on the side of the backing layer which is averted from the skin, wherein said antireflective layer contains at least one optical dulling agent.

8. (withdrawn) The medical active substance patch according to claim 7, wherein said antireflection layer further comprises at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments.

9. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said ingredient which is colourless in its initial state and which has a tendency to discolour or which discolour(s) during storage or during the application period is a pharmaceutical active substance.

10. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said active substance patch is a transdermal therapeutic system.

11. (withdrawn) A process for the production of an active substance patch according to claim 1 comprising the following steps:

a) producing a system comprising a mono- or multilayer active substance-containing matrix and a backing layer connected with said matrix, wherein the matrix is produced using a matrix polymer or matrix polymers, an active substance or active substances and auxiliary agents, and wherein at least one of said matrix and said backing layer comprises at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments;

b) producing at least one further system according to step (a), this system being different in terms of the concentration of the dyes or/and pigments, and/or in terms of the type of the dyes or/and pigments used;

c) producing surface sections or punched pieces from the systems obtained in steps (a) and (b);

d) producing or providing colour charts having lightness colour values $L_2$ in the range from 5° to 100°,

e) applying or affixing the sections or systems obtained in step (c) to the colour charts mentioned in step (d);

f) measuring the colour values of the lightness $L_1$ of the systems located on the colour charts and determining the difference between $L_2$ and $L_1$ in each particular case; and

g) selecting those systems with a colour value of the lightness $L_1$ which is not less than 50% and not more than 200% of the lightness colour value $L_2$.

12. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein $L_2$ is in the range from 20° to 90°.

13. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 4, wherein said coating is a lacquer.

14. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 9, wherein said pharmaceutical active substance is nicotine.

15. (withdrawn) The process according to claim 11, wherein step (d) comprises producing or providing colour charts having lightness colour values $L_2$ in the range from 20° to 90°.

16. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein a tristimulus colorimeter determines said lightness colour values $L_1$ and $L_2$.

17. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said skin has numerical values according to the "L, a, b" system, said numerical values ranging from "5, 8, 60" to "100, 4, 0" in said "L, a, b" system.

18. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said patch is transparent.

19. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments is incorporated in the backing layer, and wherein the backing layer is transparent.

20. (previously presented) The medical active substance patch according to claim 1, wherein said patch is coloured due to the presence of said dye(s) or pigment(s).

21. (new) A medical active substance patch comprising a matrix of monolayer or multilayer configuration and a backing layer connected with said matrix, said backing layer having one side averted from the skin, wherein at least one layer of the matrix contains a pharmaceutically active substance, and wherein at least one layer of the matrix contains an ingredient selected from the group consisting of at least one coloured ingredient, and at least one colourless ingredient being colourless in an initial state and tending to discolour or to discolour(s) during storage or to discolour during the application period, and wherein said at least one coloured ingredient and said at least one colourless ingredient are selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutically active substance and an auxiliary agent;

said active substance patch being transparent or translucent;

said active substance patch comprises at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments, wherein said at least one layer of the matrix contains said at least one substance selected from the group consisting of dyes and

pigments and/or said active substance patch further comprises a coating covering said backing layer on the side averted from the skin, said coating containing said at least one substance selected from the group consisting dyes and pigments;

in the state of having been applied to a first person's skin said patch, at a place of the skin covered with the patch, has a lightness colour value $L_1$ which is not less than 50% and not more than 200% of a lightness colour value $L_2$, with $L_2$ being the lightness value of the region of the skin of the same person which surrounds the applied patch, and

that the same applies in respect of the skin of a second or any other person, provided that $L_2$ is in the range from 5° to 100°.